GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4467
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
DISTRIBUTION OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD AMONG THE SCHOOL CHILDREN
CHARAN DAS MAHANT

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the genetically modified food have negative impact on human beings;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that GM Star Link corn imported from USA was distributed among the school children in the country;

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the number of such incidences in the country during the last three years; and

(d) the action taken against the organizations/ individuals responsible for such imports

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND F0RESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a) All genetically modified food are tested for toxicity and allergencity prior to its approval for human consumption.

(b) The Government has not received any report regarding distribution of GM Star Link Corn imported from USA among the school children in the country. However, in the absence of any certification from the US regulatory agency to the effect that the Corn Soya Blend (CSB) imported by CARE & CRS through USAID, does not contain GM Starlinlk corn, the Genetic Engineering Approv Committee (GEAC) recently refused the proposal for import of CSB into the country.

(c & d) Does not arise.